

September 28, 1959

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Space Science Board  
National Academy of Sciences  
2101 Constitution Avenue  
Washington 25, D. C.

Greetings:

You may remember some questions came up relating to classified Air Force Information. Could you and SSB lend a hand to declassify it, or at least to make it available to the Board

- (1) The volume density of microorganisms at high altitudes (stratosphere) and their viability in this environment
- (2) The average spectral-reflection profile in the Infra-red as seen from high-flying aircraft over major types of terrain: water, desert, forest. From this we could compute the IR spectrum of the earth as seen by a satellite, which would be a model for a Martian probe. We should particularly want to see the spectrum in the 'window'  $\sim 3.3 - 3.7\mu$

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg

P.S. May I ask you to send SSB-109 direct to Westex distribution according to attached list?

Thank you.